Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Updates

8/21-9/1/2017

Andrew Teal

* Created agenda for, took minutes in, and presented updates at Bayfield County AIS Committee meeting. Even had two members of the public and an advisor from UW-Extension come to share their updates. These attendees created discussions about yellow iris control, knotweed control and ID, attendance at the Northwest WI Lakes Conference, and how to revive the Bayfield County Lakes Forum. I think it was a highly productive meeting.
* Visited a landowner at Spider Lake (which has no public access) who reported an explosion in the population of snails that she has been seeing on her property (only at the water’s edge and near the dock). Turns out it was an unreported population of Chinese mystery snails. Not too alarming as an AIS goes, but a new discovery nonetheless. I was glad she was keeping an eye out and said something. I was even able to hand the snails off 30 minutes later to the Lake Superior Basin AIS Coordinator, so he could use them as vouchers.
* Provided updates on grants and events happening in the AIS Project with the Land Conservation Committee at their meeting
* Took one of my interns out to hand pull purple loosestrife along US Hwy 2, west of the roundabout and east of Hwy 63. We then wrapped up a couple of side projects (mostly involved cleaning up equipment).
* Took my interns out for smoothies as part of Intern Appreciation Day
* Updated and cleaned up the Excel spreadsheet we call the “Knotweed Log”-this document houses our knotweed control data and history, landowner contact information, locations, etc., so I fixed all the errors I could find and updated landowner information. We even got a few new permission forms this year, from places that were previously against getting rid of knotweed.
* Assisted with filing vouchers and mailing checks, answering the phones, etc. Our clerk, Arianna, had her last day this past Friday, and our new clerk will start on September 18th.